THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) There is not much exidence of diversion of land from foodgrains to other cash crops except in a few isolated pockets of the country.

(b): The farmers allocate their area under different crops taking into consideration the relative profitability of various crops.

(c): The various crop oriented production programmes for increasing food-grains production in the country are under implementation. Besides, enough price incentive is also being provided for increasing foodgrain production.

**Agricultural Universities in Madhya Pradesh**

527. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes submitted by Agricultural Universities in Madhya Pradesh to ICAR seeking financial assistance during 1992-93, the amount sought and sanctioned and the proposals which are still under consideration;

(b) the financial assistance provided to the Agricultural Universities in the State during the last three years;

(c) whether the performance of these universities was assessed during these years; if so, with what results; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to strengthen the research activities of Agriculure Universities during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Sir, 20 schemes have been submitted by the Universities out of which 18 totalling Rs. 121.68 lakh have been sanctioned. Two schemes costing Rs. 103 lakh are under consideration.

(b) The funds allocated during the last three years are:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1990-91 | . . | Rs 575.84 lakhs |
| 1991-92 | . . | Rs. 622.90 „ |
| 1992-93 | . . | Rs. 519.78 „ |

(c) Yes Sir. The performance has been found to be satisfactory.

(d) Govt. proposes;

(i) Need based strengthening of All India Coord. Research Projects.

(ii) Developmental grants to the Universities for infrastructural development;

(iii) Improvement of regional research capabilities through National Agricultural Research Project and

(iv) Sanctioning of ad-hoc research schemes in critical areas.

**Crop Insurance Scheme**

528. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the figures, state-wise and year-wise, of the total premium paid by farmers under Crop Insurance Scheme in different states in last three years; and

(b) what is the total amount disbursed as claims to the farmers under this scheme in the respective states in respective years in the last three years?